



NATICK HEALTH DEPARTMENT
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Halloween 2020

Although Natick's COVID-19 infection rates have remained relatively low and steady, please be advised that any activity outside of the home may offer some level of COVID-19 risk. If there are any concerns regarding the safety of family members, it is recommended that you do not partake in traditional door-to-door trick-or-treating. Governor Baker announced on Wednesday, October 7, 2020 that he supports the traditional trick-or-treating in place of large gatherings and Halloween parties, as outlined in the Governor's Executive Order on gatherings, due to the potential spread of COVID-19. Therefore, the Board of Health recommends Natick residents follow the CDC Holiday guidance for Halloween for those families that choose to trick-or-treat with the following modifications:

- Trick or Treaters stay in family units known as bubbles.
- Allow families to leave a house before the next one approaches, maintain social distancing at all times.
- For those handing out candy, we recommend individually pre-packaged treats to be handed out on the porch or front steps.
- Candy bars or treats should be left in their original bag until dispensed by the host only.
- Face coverings must be worn by those handing out the treats.
- The Board recommends the use of gloves, tongs or other means of no bare hand touch for handing out treats. **(No communal bowls!)**
- Recommend having hand sanitizer of a minimum of 60% alcohol strength available for the hosts and treaters.
- Maintain 6 feet from the entry doors of houses whenever possible.
- Face coverings must be worn when at doors of houses and when Trick or Treaters cannot socially distance.
- The CDC recommends that traditional trick-or-treat activities take place between 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm.
- If you are sick with COVID-19, or you are under Isolation and/or Quarantine Orders, please stay home and please do not participate by handing out or receiving candy or treats.
- The Natick Health Department also recommends all activities be carried out with all public safety guidance.

NOTE: For the households that do not wish to participate in trick-or-treat, please turn your outdoor lights OFF. Trick-or-treaters, please respect and bypass those houses without lights.

Furthermore: The Board opposes the following activities:

- Indoor Parties of any type
- Indoor or outdoor costume parties.
- Walking through an indoor haunted house.
- "Trunk or Treat" activities not approved by the Board of Health**
- Any high risk activities that foster risky behaviors.

** The Natick Recreation and Parks Department "Trunk-or-treat" drive-through Halloween parade has received the approval of Natick Board of Health.

For more information on the CDC guidance go to: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/holidays.html>

Be Safe!